

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A push-to-talk controller in a wireless network for establishing a local ad hoc group session between an inviting mobile terminal and local mobile terminals, the push-to-talk controller comprising:

a presence server for identifying local mobile terminals within a local area of the inviting mobile terminal;

a group server configured to filter the identified local mobile terminals based on a user-specified local area restriction, ~~and a user-specified access control restriction against~~ one or more access lists stored in memory at the group server to identify preferred local mobile terminals; and

a push-to-talk server configured to establish the local ad hoc group session between the inviting mobile terminal and one or more of the preferred local mobile terminals responsive to a request from the inviting mobile terminal.

2. (Previously Presented) The push-to-talk controller of claim 1 wherein the push-to-talk server sends an invite message to the one or more of the preferred local mobile terminals and establishes the local ad hoc group session between the inviting mobile terminal and one or more of the preferred local mobile terminals that respond to the invite message.

3. (Original) The push-to-talk controller of claim 1 further comprising a core server that receives the request from the inviting mobile terminal and forwards a list of the local mobile terminals identified by the presence server to the push-to-talk server.

4. (Previously Presented) The push-to-talk controller of claim 1 wherein the group server is further configured to filter the local mobile terminals identified by the presence server based on a media type restriction to identify the one or more preferred local mobile terminals.
5. (Original) The push-to-talk controller of claim 4 wherein the push-to-talk server sends an invite message to each of the preferred local mobile terminals and establishes the local ad hoc group session between the inviting mobile terminal and one or more of the preferred local mobile terminals that respond to the invite message.
6. (Previously Presented) The push-to-talk controller of claim 4 wherein the group server further filters the local mobile terminals identified by the presence server based on a subject of interest identified by the inviting mobile terminal.
7. (Original) The push-to-talk controller of claim 1 wherein the presence server determines a current location of the inviting mobile terminal.
8. (Original) The push-to-talk controller of claim 7 wherein the presence server defines the local area based on the current location of the inviting mobile terminal.
9. (Original) The push-to-talk controller of claim 1 wherein the presence server receives a defined local area from the inviting mobile.
10. (Original) The push-to-talk controller of claim 1 wherein the presence server identifies local mobile terminals within the local area of the inviting mobile terminal by identifying local mobile terminals in at least a portion of the same cell as the inviting mobile terminal.

11. (Original) The push-to-talk controller of claim 1 wherein the presence server identifies local mobile terminals within the local area of the inviting mobile terminal by identifying local mobile terminals within a defined distance of the inviting mobile terminal.

12. (Original) The push-to-talk controller of claim 1 further comprising a memory for dynamically storing groups and dynamically storing updated lists of local mobile terminals within the local area of the inviting mobile terminal.

13. (Currently Amended) A method of establishing a local ad hoc group session in a wireless network between an inviting mobile terminal and local mobile terminals, the method comprising:

receiving a request to initiate the local ad hoc group session at a core server of a push-to-talk controller in the wireless network from the inviting mobile terminal;

using a presence server in the push-to-talk controller to identify local mobile terminals within a local area of the inviting mobile terminal;

filtering the identified local mobile terminals based on a user-specified local area restriction, and ~~a user-specified access restriction~~ against one or more access lists stored in memory at a group server to identify preferred local mobile terminals in the local area;

and

establishing the local ad hoc group session between the inviting mobile terminal and one or more of the preferred local mobile terminals using a push-to-talk server of the push-to-talk controller.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13 wherein establishing the local ad hoc group session comprises:

 sending an invite message to the preferred local mobile terminals within the local area of the inviting mobile terminal; and
 establishing the local ad hoc group session between the inviting mobile terminal and one or more of the preferred local mobile terminals that respond to the invite message.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13 further comprising filtering identified local mobile terminals within the local area of the inviting mobile terminal based on a media type restriction.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15 wherein establishing the local ad hoc group session comprises:

 sending an invite message to one or more of the preferred local mobile terminals; and
 establishing the local ad hoc group session between the inviting mobile terminal and one or more of the preferred local mobile terminals that respond to the invite message.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15 further comprising using a group server in the push-to-talk controller to filter the identified local mobile terminals within the local area of the inviting mobile terminal based on a subject of interest identified by the inviting mobile terminal.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13 wherein using the presence server to identify local mobile terminals within a local area of the inviting mobile terminal comprises using the presence server to identify local mobile terminals within at least a portion of a base station cell containing the inviting mobile terminal.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13 wherein using the presence server to identify local mobile terminals within a local area of the inviting mobile terminal comprises using the presence server to identify local mobile terminals within a defined distance of the inviting mobile terminal.

20. (Original) The method of claim 13 further comprising storing and dynamically updating groups of local mobile terminals within one or more local areas of the inviting mobile terminal.

21 – 36. (Cancelled).

37. (Currently Amended) A push-to-talk controller in a wireless network for establishing a push-to-talk communication session for a local ad hoc group comprising an inviting mobile terminal and local mobile terminals, the push-to-talk controller comprising:

- a presence server for identifying one or more local mobile terminals within a local area of the inviting mobile terminal;

- a group server configured to filter the identified local mobile terminals based on a media type restriction identified by the inviting mobile terminal and against one or more access lists stored in memory at the group server to identify one or more preferred local mobile terminals, and further configured to create an ad hoc group including the inviting mobile terminal and the one or more preferred local mobile terminals; and

- a push-to-talk server for establishing the push-to-talk communication session between members of said ad hoc group responsive to a request from the inviting mobile terminal.

38. (Previously Presented) The push-to-talk controller of claim 37 wherein the group server is further configured to filter the identified local mobile terminals based on a user-specified radius.

39. (Previously Presented) The push-to-talk controller of claim 37 wherein the group server is further configured to filter the identified local mobile terminals based on a user-specified geographic region.

40. (Currently Amended) The push-to-talk controller of claim 37 wherein the ~~group server is further configured to filter the identified local mobile terminals based on a user-specified access restriction~~ one or more access lists comprise one or more user-specified grant lists.

41. (Currently Amended) The push-to-talk controller of claim 37 wherein the ~~user-specified access restriction comprises one of a user-specified grant list and a~~ one or more access lists comprise one or more user-specified block list lists.